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PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

[ISSUED NOVEMBER 8TH, 1869.]

SESSION 1868-69.

Fourteenth Meeting, June 14th, 1869.

SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON, BART., K.C.B., PRESIDENT, in
the Chair.

ELECTIONS.—*Robert E. Davies, Esq., J.P.; Edward Durham, Esq.; John Orr Ewing, Esq.; Captain Richard Vesey Hamilton, R.N.*

ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY FROM 24TH MAY TO 14TH JUNE, 1869.—
‘Overland Railroad through British North America.’ By A. Waddington. 1869. Donor, the author. ‘Sur les Voyages et les Travaux de M. le Comte S. d’Escayrac de Lauture.’ Par Malte-Brun. Donor, the author. ‘Travels in Central Caucasus and Bashan,’ &c. By D. W. Freshfield. 1869. Donor, the author. ‘State Emigration.’ By E. Jenkins. Donor, the author. ‘Route from the Atlantic to the Pacific, through British Territory.’ By Sir H. Verney. Donor, the author. ‘Voyage à travers l’Amérique du Sud.’ Par Paul Marcoy. Paris, 1869. Purchased. ‘Voyage aux Pyrénées.’ Par H. Taine. Paris, 1860. Purchased. ‘General Report of the Great Trigonometrical Survey of India during 1867-68.’ By J. T. Walker, R.N.

ACCESSIONS TO THE MAP-ROOM SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF MAY 10TH, 1869.—Historical Wall-map of Prussia, showing the Acquisitions since the year 1814. By Dr. Breecher. On 8 sheets. Purchased. Geological Map of Sweden. 5 sheets of ditto. Presented by the Geological Society of Sweden, through Professor A. Erdmann. A Descriptive Hand-Atlas of the World. By J. Bartholomew, F.R.G.S. Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, containing 8 maps, with letter-press. Presented by Messrs. Fullarton and Co. A General Atlas of America, with two

maps. By A. G. Kohl; and a Wall-map of Palestine. By C. Hergt. Both presented by Sir R. I. Murchison, K.C.B., President. A Map of the Railways in and around London. By M. Vigers. Purchased. A Map of the North-Polar Basin, showing the track of Whalers, from the year 1777. By A. Petermann. A Map of the Arctic Regions, between Spitzbergen and Greenland, showing the tracks of the whale-ships from the year 1671 to 1868. By A. Petermann. A Map of a portion of Eastern Turkestan, showing the route of Ssewerzow and Osten-Sacken in 1867, from Issyk-Kul to Kaschgar. By A. Petermann.

Dr. R. J. MANN read the following paper:—

Journal of an Excursion to the Mouth of the Limpopo. By
ST. VINCENT ERSKINE.

(Abstract.)*

MR. ERSKINE states, at the commencement of his journal, that he heard of Herr Mauch's proposal to penetrate Africa from south to north, when engaged on service some hundred miles from Pietermaritzburg, the capital of the colony. He forthwith determined to employ eighteen months' leave of absence in an attempt to explore the course of the Sabia and Limpopo rivers, and offered himself to Carl Mauch as a companion upon his northward start. He left Pietermaritzburg, to carry out this purpose, on the 6th of May, 1868, and crossed the Drakenbergen, and the Vilge and Orange rivers in a transport wagon, to which he had attached himself. In this conveyance he reached Potchefstroom, the most important town of the Transvaal Republic, after some days of slow travelling, and then found his way thence to Pretoria, by another trading wagon. He remained at Pretoria, the guest of Mr. Lys, a well-known English merchant of the place, for three weeks, and then passed on to Leydenburg, a distance of about 100 miles, with Mr. Lys, in one of his wagons. He remained at Leydenburg, at the residence of Mr. M'Laughlan, for about a week, in consultation with Herr Mauch, and employed a portion of his time in practising instrumental observations. He satisfactorily determined the longitude and latitude of Leydenburg as 31° 30' E. longitude, and 25° 4' S. latitude.

From Leydenburg Mr. Erskine travelled in two days and a half in one of Mr. M'Laughlan's wagons along the course of the Umchla-

* Prepared by Dr. Mann from Mr. Erskine's original journals in the possession of the Society.